

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An insect bait comprising:
 - (a) a plurality of free amino acids in a concentration range of 2-7 g/100ml of insect bait wherein at least one amino acid is asparagine in the concentration range of 1-5 g/100ml of insect bait;
 - (b) a sugar; and
 - (c) a preservative.
2. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 1, wherein at least one amino acid is asparagine.
3. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 1, where the plurality of amino acids has a concentration of about 2-7 g/100ml of insect bait.
4. (Original) The insect bait of claim 1, wherein the sugar is at least one selected from the group consisting of sucrose, fructose, glucose, maltose, trehalose, honey, cane syrup and molasses.
5. (Original) The insect bait of claim 4, wherein the sugar is sucrose.
6. (Original) The insect bait of claim 4, wherein the sugar has a concentration of about 20-60 g/100ml of insect bait.

7. (Original) The insect bait of claim 1, wherein the preservative is at least one selected from the group consisting of sodium benzoate, citric acid, disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, and a mixture of sodium benzoate and citric acid.
8. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 1 further comprising an insect toxicant.
9. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 8, wherein the insect toxicant is at least one selected from the group consisting of disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, thiamethoxam, orthoboric acid, borax, imidacloprid, and indoxacarb.
10. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 9, wherein the insect toxicant is disodium octaborate tetrahydrate.
11. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 9, wherein the insect toxicant is thiamethoxam.
12. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 8, wherein the insect toxicant is an insect growth regulator.
13. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 8, wherein the insect toxicant has a concentration of about 1-100 ppm of insect bait.

14. (Currently amended) An insect bait comprising:

(a) a plurality of free amino acids in a concentration of about 2-7 g/100ml of insect bait, wherein one of the amino acids is asparagine in the concentration range of 1-5 g/100ml of insect bait; and

(b) a sugar.

15. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 14, where the plurality of amino acids has a concentration of about 2-7 g/100ml of insect bait.

16. (Original) The insect bait of claim 14, wherein the sugar is at least one selected from the group consisting of sucrose, fructose, glucose, maltose, trehalose, honey, cane syrup and molasses.

17. (Original) The insect bait of claim 16, wherein the sugar is sucrose.

18. (Original) The insect bait of claim 16, wherein the sugar has a concentration of about 20-60 g/100ml of insect bait.

19. (Original) The insect bait of claim 14, further comprising a preservative selected from the group consisting of sodium benzoate, citric acid, disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, and a mixture of sodium benzoate and citric acid.

20. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 14 further comprising an insect toxicant.

21. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 20, wherein the insect toxicant is at least one selected from the group consisting of disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, thiamethoxam, orthoboric acid, borax, imidacloprid, and indoxacarb.

22. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 21, wherein the insect toxicant is disodium octaborate tetrahydrate.

23. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 21, wherein the insect toxicant is thiamethoxam.

24. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 20, wherein the insect toxicant is an insect growth regulator.

25. (Withdrawn) The insect bait of claim 20, wherein the insect toxicant has a concentration of about 1-100 ppm of insect bait.

26. (Withdrawn) A method for controlling insects, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an insect bait comprising a plurality of amino acids, a sugar, and a preservative; and

(b) applying an effective amount of the insect bait to an area to be controlled.

27. (Withdrawn) A method for controlling insects, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an insect bait comprising a plurality of amino acids, a sugar, a preservative, and an insect toxicant; and
- (b) applying an effective amount of the insect bait to an area to be controlled.

28. (Withdrawn) A method for controlling insects at a location, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) sampling from said location at least one selected from the group consisting of nectars and honeydews;
- (b) determining compositions of said nectars and honeydews from said location;
- (c) formulating a mimic from said compositions;
- (d) combining the mimic with an insect toxicant; and
- (e) applying an effective amount of the mimic and insect toxicant combination to said location.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a granular insect bait, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) mixing a lipid-containing substance and an insect bait comprising a plurality of amino acids, a sugar and a preservative with a granular carrier until the carrier has absorbed at least a portion of the mixture; and
- (c) subjecting the carrier to heat until the carrier retains about 8-13% moisture.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the carrier comprises corn grits.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the lipid-containing substance comprises oil.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the oil comprises olive oil.